

Alaska Monthly Fire Potential Outlook

Forecast:

- Alaska is in the heart of fire season, with a lot of fire on the ground, over the 2 M acre mark. Many of these fires will continue to burn off and on throughout August, though with shorter days and lower sun angles, activity and burn periods will not be as intense.

Factors:

- The long range models show more variability starting to work into the upper level pattern. This means a mix of cooler, damper weather separating the warm, dry spells, but it will take a lot of rain over a long time frame to put fires completely out. Until a significant wet period of several days blankets the whole state, fires will be active during the drier time frames. It is likely that the Upper Yukon will harbor the most end-of-season fire activity.
- The Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDRS) shows that much of Mainland AK has Very High to Extreme dryness in the deep duff layers, though the surface is variable. The areas of greatest concern include the Yukon Flats, the northern Kenai Peninsula, the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, and the Anchorage area.

- Indices continue to highlight the Yukon Flats as the driest region from top to bottom. Since this part of the state is farthest inland and naturally sheltered from much precipitation, it's likely that this is where the fire season will linger into September.

